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record of New Guinea, activity of any sort whatever. The reviewer finds particular interest in these records because, engaged himself in waters immediately adjacent during the latter period of the former half of this volume and the early period of this latter half, he was familiar with all of the work and with many of the workers. For instance Capt. Wawn, master of vessels in the labor trade, cannot be classed with the explorers; yet Dr. Wichmann shows his comprehension of the evaluation which is proper to be given to Wawn's narrative, and exhibits rare skill in picking out from a work which was really apologetic for a traffic in men that was little other than government-regulated slavery, all the really valuable contributions to the knowledge of New Guinea which the labor trader has included in the record. The charts, of which there are thirty-six in this fascicle, are unfortunately greatly reduced in order to bring them within the page, yet they will be found valuable memoranda for those who will employ this volume as a concise summary to direct their research to the original sources. The volume is an essential introduction to the results of the Dutch expedition. In general it will be found a most satisfactory encyclopedia of all that was known of New Guinea up to the time Wichmann began his work.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Geology of New Zealand. By P. Marshall. viii and 218 pp. Maps, ills., index. Minister of Education, Wellington, N. Z., 1912. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

An interesting book with up-to-date description and a complete geologic map. A striking absence of nearly all Paleozoic rocks in both islands. Archean rocks and metamorphic schists in South Island and Triassic terranes in North Island determine the main lines. Off shore, at one time, volcanic mountains were welded to the axes by Cenozoic and recent sediments in great coastal plains. Such plains also border the east side of both islands, and more sparingly much of the west side. Downs of loose sandstones lie in both islands, and more or less continuously on both sides, between the coastal plains and the axes. Radial drainage on the slopes of Mt. Egmont; islands of rare beauty, equable climate and great resources. The chapters on rivers, glaciers, the atmosphere, volcanoes, lakes and the sea coast constitute a brief course in systematic physiography with local illustrations.

G. D. HUBBARD.

Über die astronomischen Kenntnisse der Naturvölker Australiens und der Südsee. Inaugural-Dissertation . . . Univ. Leipzig. Von Alfred Kötz. xiv and 73 pp. Ills. Robert Norske, Leipzig, 1911. 9 x 6.

The "Doktor-Dissertation" is too often something eminently artificial and a record of uninspired industry. A bibliography is a required feature, yet the catalogues of the Leipzig book dealers shows that aspiring doctors can buy their bibliographies ready made for insignificant sums. It is fair to assume that these junior German students have exhausted the collation of their themes so far as their library facilities extend, and, in the German universities, these facilities are excellent. Accordingly this tract will serve the convenience of a guide to the literature of primitive astronomy in Australia and the South Seas, and the student who may feel any attraction in the theme will be in a position to correct the errors of interpretation. It is highly probable that nowhere but in an inaugural dissertation would it be possible to join such dissimilar types of humanity as the Australian and the Polynesian.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

EUROPE

Pflanzengeographische Wandlungen der deutschen Landschaft.

Von Hans Hausrath. vi and 274 pp. Index. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1911. Mk. 5. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

Beside much theoretical matter which is evidently warmly disputed by its students Prof. Hausrath's volume has an admirable picture of the relations of man and the forest in Germany ever since the Ice Age. The character and place of the forests of to-day have been mostly fixed by man. The men of the later Stone Age arrived in the land before the woods had completely got

possession and settled on the open spots. Archæological studies have located these settlements and given good grounds for the belief that woods never grew on them to any great extent. Man's early effect on the forest was to keep it out of the regions he settled, though it was in a fair way when he came to take possession of the whole country. He destroyed bits of border woods mostly, perhaps, by his cattle browsing and occasional fires, but the virgin forest persisted unchanged, though not so continuous as Tacitus reports, for the openings of the German settlements were scattered through, but a vast forest it remained till Carlovingian times. The German was a good farmer and had a better plow than the Roman. The forests were cut, mainly at the behest of the cloîsters, between 750 and 1350 A. D.

MARK JEFFERSON.

The Tourist's Russia. By Ruth Kedzie Wood. 253 pp. Map, ills., index.

Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1912. \$1.25. 7½ x 5.

The book puts in clear and usable form the necessary information about how and where to travel in Russia with many details as to short excursions off the main line of travel. Written from first hand information by one who loves Russia, the volume gives a new impression of the country and its people. It is not a Baedeker in completeness, or in brevity and pithiness of treatment, but it is a serviceable book that ought to help make travel in Russia more enjoyable.

RICHARD ELWOOD DODGE.

POLAR

Expédition Antarctic Française (1903-1905). Commandée par le Dr.

Jean Charcot. Hydrographie, physique du Globe. Par A. Mâtha et J. J. Rey. vi and 615 pp. Maps, ills. Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 1911. 15 frs. 11½ x 9.

The French Antarctic Expedition of 1903-1905, organized and commanded by Dr. Jean Charcot, brought back scientific documents of very great value. The present volume contains the hydrographical, meteorological and geophysical observations made by Lieutenants A. Mâtha and J. J. Rey, as well as the discussion of these observations. In an introduction of twenty-four pages Dr. Charcot gives clearly and concisely the history of the preparations for the expedition, refers especially to the construction of the vessel *Le Français*, gives a list of the ship's officers and crew, outlines the programme for work as it was laid down before the departure of the expedition and concludes with a short history of discoveries made before 1903 on the west coast of Graham Land.

The six maps accompanying the volume show clearly the value of the hydrographical work carried on by this first antarctic expedition of Dr. Charcot. The coasts of the islands of Palmer Archipelago were very carefully surveyed excepting, naturally, those in de Gerlache Strait, the map of which had previously been drawn by the Belgian Expedition. The maps of the Bay of Flanders and of Wiencke Island, discovered by the Belgian Expedition, were corrected as the work of the hydrographer of the *Belgica* was somewhat superficial. Otto Nordenskjöld had occasion to make the same remark on Hughes Inlet.

Farther south the map of Kaiser Wilhelm Islands was drawn in a very detailed manner because the expedition wintered in a bay of one of these islands. Finally, a portion of the coast of Graham Land was also surveyed in detail.

It seems to me that a remark about the names "Roosen Channel," "Bismarck Inlet," and "Kaiser Wilhelm Islands," adopted by Charcot, will be of some interest. I had the map of Friederichsen on the *Belgica* and during the voyage I had no doubt that the "Bismarck Strasse" of Friederichsen was the inlet to Flanders Bay and Belgica or de Gerlache Channel. I was not alone in this opinion. But this idea was not adopted by the hydrographer of the Belgian Antarctic Expedition, and Charcot has done his work over again even to the names adopted. (Charcot p. 33.)

Among the scientific researches of the French expedition the study of the tides, the determination of gravity and the observation of atmospheric electricity are of special interest and great value. These observations show the highly scientific character of Charcot's expedition, and the results obtained in these three fields of research do honor to the persistent labor of Mâtha and Rey.